

**MINUTES OF THE
AUBURN CITY HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING
July 6, 2010**

The regular session of the Auburn City Historic Design Review Commission meeting was called to order on July 6, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Spokely in the Council Chambers, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Snyder, Worthington, Vitas, Young, Spokely, Briggs, and Green

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Barry-Schweyer, Kidd

STAFF PRESENT: Lance E. Lowe, AICP, Associate Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 4, 2010

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

V. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

- A. APPEAL OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S DENIAL OF AN ENCROACHMENT PERMIT TO INSTALL ORANGE UMBRELLAS – 940 LINCOLN WAY (TANGO FROZEN YOGURT) – FILE HDR 10-12.** The applicant has appealed the Community Development Department's denial of an Encroachment Permit to install Orange Umbrellas in Phase I of the Streetscape Project.

Planner Lowe provided an overview of the project, which is an appeal of staff's denial of orange umbrellas in the Phase I of the Streetscape project.

Commissioner Worthington asked about the Historic Color Palette that the Historic Design Review Commission considered. Was the Historic Color palette made available to the applicant?

Planner Lowe replied that the Historic Color Palette was not provided to the applicant; however, it

was staff's recommendation that the umbrellas be the same color as the awnings and/or the buildings which are consistent with the color palette.

Planner Lowe replied that the orange window signage was approved.

Commissioner Briggs asked if the orange sign for Tango Frozen Yogurt was approved in accordance with the Historic Color Palette.

Commissioner Snyder requested clarification about the appropriate colors for old town and asked if the color of orange was a legitimate color for the signage, but not for buildings or awnings.

Planner Lowe replied that was correct.

Commissioner Young asked if the applicant was given the appropriate information about what colors were acceptable?

Planner Lowe replied that the owner installed the orange umbrellas without approval and was notified by staff after the fact that her encroachment permit would have to be amended to include the orange umbrellas. Staff noted at that time that it was staff's opinion that the orange umbrellas were not consistent with the Encroachment Permit Design Guidelines.

Commissioner Young questioned the color requirement: "complimentary in material, color and design to the buildings they serve and are adjacent to". Commissioner Young asked what if I personally like the color orange. I believe the orange color is attractive and blends with the building color. How am I wrong?

Planner Lowe replied that with respect to design review, particularly color, it is very subjective. The decision is a discretionary action before the Historic Design Review Commission. At a staff level, it was staff's opinion that the orange colors are not appropriate.

Commissioner Young asked about the red umbrella 150 feet in front of Big O Tires.

Chairman Spokely replied that that awning was approved along time ago and may not have been approved today.

Commissioner Worthington commented that she believed that the Historic Color Palette should be used. What is difficult in review of this application is the difference between a sign color and a building color.

Commissioner Snyder noted that the Planning Commission and Historic Design Review Commission has given staff more authority in the past few years. In certain cases, where staff is uncomfortable with certain approvals, the request should be considered before the Planning Commission and Historic Design Review Districts. This is the process that has been set up and certain approvals will be presented to the

Commissions for consideration. Although it is difficult for the applicant to endure, this is the appropriate process for such considerations.

Commissioner Snyder complimented staff on presenting this issue before the Commission.

Commissioner Brigg polled various individuals in town what they thought of the orange umbrellas and the response was very positive.

Chairman Spokely opened the public hearing.

Lisa Swisley of 5785 Palmridge Road, Auburn did not realize it would come to a public hearing when she installed the orange umbrellas. The public has been very receptive to her orange umbrellas. Ms. Swisley would like to keep her orange umbrellas.

Ms. Swisley believes that her umbrellas are consistent with the building color and are bright and cheerful.

Michelle Smith of 1232 Live Oak Street of Auburn noted that she believed that orange colors are compatible with the buildings. Ms. Smith liked the umbrellas and supported the request.

Joseph Tucciarone of 14670 McElroy Road noted that businesses need to be encouraged and stated that umbrellas are an accessory item and as such need to be bright and lively. Mr. Tucciarone believes that the orange umbrellas are terrific.

Tom Snead of 1232 Live Oak Lane likes the orange umbrellas and believes that they match the building.

Ron Solomon of 11897 Clover Court Auburn owns the Auburn Jewelry & Loan and noted that the business community is in bad shape and that the City should allow for such color schemes and perhaps the City should consider more colors in Downtown.

Rick Solomon of 1293 High Street has been a resident of Auburn since 1977 and loves the streetscape. As an electrical contractor, Mr. Solomon notes that with the high sodium lighting in the streetscape project, these colors will be very complimentary of the building colors.

Mr. Solomon finds that the colors are very aesthetically pleasing and fit well with the streetscape project.

Chairman Spokely closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Worthington appreciated the poll conducted by Commissioner Briggs noting that customers have appreciated the orange umbrellas.

Commissioner Snyder is thankful that the applicant put up the orange umbrellas because it has opened our eyes as to what colors could be compatible with the streetscape project.

Commissioner Vitas noted that the City should have some exceptions to the standard colors of black, brown, and tan.

Commissioner Green noted that he believes that the orange umbrellas are complimentary to the streetscape project, although he would like to see one more umbrella.

Commissioner Young noted that the owners of the streetscape project had endured the construction impacts associated with streetscape and thanked the business owners for staying with the City during this difficult economic time.

Chairman Spokely agreed with Commissioner Snyder that the process worked very well considering this was a difficult decision put before staff.

Commissioner Snyder complimented staff on their decision and process.

Commissioner Snyder **MOVED** to adopt Historic Design Review Commission Resolution 10-02 for Orange Umbrellas for Tango Frozen Yogurt.

Commissioner Vitas **SECONDED** the motion.

AYES:	Snyder, Worthington, Vitas, Young, Briggs & Spokely
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Barry-Schweyer & Kidd

Commissioner Snyder also recommended waiving the fees for the Encroachment Permit, but conceded that the Commission may not have the authority to do so.

Commissioner Vitas Seconded the motion

All Commissioners recommended waiver of Encroachment permit fees.

VI. HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. City Council Meetings
 - Planner Lowe informed the Commission that the Tuscan Townhome project has yet to go before the City Council for consideration of the appeal.
- B. Future Historic Design Review Commission Meetings
 - Nothing to report
- C. Review of Expanding Staff Authority
 - Nothing to report

VII. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

- A. City Council Meetings
None
- B. Future Historic Design Review Commission Meetings
None
- C. Reports
None

VIII. HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION REPORTS

None

IX. FUTURE HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance E. Lowe, ACIP
Associate Planner